## Message Text

SECRET

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73

**ACTION NEA-10** 

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 OMB-01

/057 W

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R 281358Z MAY 75

FM AMEMBASSY MANAMA BAHRAIN TO SECSTATE WASHINGTON DC 2141 INFO AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI UAE AMEMBASSY DOHA QATAR AMEMBASSY JIDDA SAUDI ARABIA AMEMBASSY KUWAIT KUWAIT AMEMBASSY MUSCAT OMAN AMEMBASSY TEHRAN IRAN

SECRET MANAMA 0605

E.O. 11652 : XGDS-1 TAGS : MARR, BA, SA

SUBJECT : SAUDI-BAHRAINI MILITARY COOPERATION

- 1. MAY 27 BAHRAIN CROWN PRINCE/DEFENSE MINISTER SHAIKH HAMAD MADE ONE DAY VISIT TO SAUDIS IN EASTERN PROVINCE. ALTHOUGH HAMAD IS FREQUENT VISITOR TO SAUDI ARABIA, FACT THAT THIS TRIP FOLLOWED ONE DAY AFTER HIS FATHER, THE AMIR, LED SMALL DELEGATION TO CALL ON KING KHALID WOULD SUGGEST HAMAD'S VISIT FOCUSED ON PLANS FOR FORTHCOMING SAUDI-BAHRAINI JOINT MILITARY EXERCISE IN BAHRAIN.
- 2. EXERCISE, WHICH HAS BEEN REPORTED IN OTHER CHANNELS, NOW APPEARS SCHEDULED FOR FIRST WEEK IN JUNE. WHEN AMIR FIRST MENTIONED IT TO ME LAST WEEK, HE APPEARED LESS THAN ENTHUSIASTIC ABOUT IMPLICATIONS OF SAUDI MILITARY FORCES DISPLAYING THEIR ABILITY TO ATTACK BAHRAIN ALTHOUGH I GOT IMPRESSION SHAIKH HAMAD HAD PERSUADED HIM THAT, ON BALANCE, JOINT EXERCISE WAS A GOOD THING TO DO. WE ARE INTRIGUED BY FACT THAT GOB HAS TO DATE MADE NO PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENT THAT SECRET

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EXERCISE WILL BE TAKING PLACE SINCE IT WOULD BE NECESSARY

TO CLOSE OFF THE EXERCISE AREA AT SOUTHERN PART OF ISLAND
FROM CIVILIAN RECREATIONAL USE AND SINCE PUBLIC OPINION
NEEDS TO BE PREPARED FOR SPECTACLE OF SAUDI AIR MIGHT
DESCENDING ON BAHRAIN.

TWINAM

SECRET

NNN

## Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994 Channel Indicators: n/a

**Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED** 

Concepts: ARMED FORCES, MILITARY EXERCISES, INTERGOVERNMENTAL COOPERATION

Control Number: n/a Copy: SINGLE Draft Date: 28 MAY 1975 Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960 Decaption Note: Disposition Action: RELEASED Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: CunninFX
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975MANAMA00605

Document Number: 1975MANAMA00605 Document Source: CORE Document Unique ID: 00

Drafter: n/a Enclosure: n/a **Executive Order:** X1 Errors: N/A

Film Number: D750186-1030

From: MANAMA

Handling Restrictions: n/a

Image Path:

ISecure: 1

Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750514/aaaaalzp.tel

Line Count: 66

Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM Office: ACTION NEA

**Original Classification: SECRET** Original Handling Restrictions: n/a Original Previous Classification: n/a Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a

Page Count: 2

Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: SECRET Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a Reference: n/a

Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED Review Authority: CunninFX

Review Comment: n/a Review Content Flags: Review Date: 04 AUG 2003

**Review Event:** 

Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <04 AUG 2003 by CunninFX>; APPROVED <21 NOV 2003 by CunninFX>

**Review Markings:** 

Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JÚL 2006

**Review Media Identifier:** Review Referrals: n/a Review Release Date: n/a Review Release Event: n/a **Review Transfer Date:** Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a

Secure: OPEN Status: NATIVE

Subject: : SAUDI-BAHRAINI MILITARY COOPERATION TAGS: MARR, BA, SA
To: STATE

Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006